

# **Samuel J. Keller papers**

## **L285**

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August 15, 2016

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts  
140 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204  
317-232-3671

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Rare Books and Manuscripts
<b>Creator</b>	Keller, Samuel
<b>Title</b>	Samuel J. Keller papers
<b>Date</b>	1848-1911
<b>Extent</b>	1.0 Cubic feet 3 manuscript boxes, 1 oversize folder
<b>Language</b>	English

### Preferred Citation

Samuel J. Keller papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

## Biographical Note

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Samuel J. Keller was born in Ohio on December 18, 1825 John and Rachel Keller and was their oldest son. He served in the Mexican War as a private in Company K., Infantry, 2nd Regiment in 1847. Samuel was married to Melvina E. Wallet [Wolleat] on March 14, 1852 in Wells County, Indiana. They had eight children: William Harter (who died at the age of 9), Samuel, May [Mary] Ellen, Catharine, Emma Adaline, Jennie, Lydia and John. He served in the Indiana Volunteers, Regiment 47, Company H, enlisting on Oct. 1, 1861, then as a captain from December 13, 1861 to December 12, 1864. Samuel learned the brickmaking trade and worked in several communities in Indiana and in Minnesota, from 1854-1858, then returning to Bluffton, Indiana. In 1876 he and his family moved to San Jose, California, then to Portland, Oregon where he prospected for gold. They returned to Bluffton in 1880. He served as postmaster of Bluffton from 1884-1886. He died July 22, 1911 and is buried in the Fairview Cemetery, Bluffton, Indiana.

### Sources:

Information found within the collection.

"Keller, Samuel" Samuel Keller - Facts. Retrieved 2016/07/29. <http://person.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Keller, Samuel [I]." 1870 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2016/07/29. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Keller, Samuel J." 1860 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2013/10/04. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Keller, Samuel J." 1880 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2016/07/29. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Keller, Samuel J." U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current. Retrieved 2016/07/27. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Keller, Samuel J." Indiana, Marriage Collection, 1800-1941. Retrieved 2013/10/04. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Keller, Samuel J.". U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865. Retrieved 2016/07/27. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection includes letters from Samuel J. Keller in Bluffton, Indiana, California, and Minnesota; Mexican War and Civil War army camps; business, legal and financial papers; a diary; newspaper clippings; business advertising; postcards; and miscellaneous ranging from 1848-1911 regarding family matters, army life and war.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged chronologically.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

### Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from J. A. Chaney on 1972/07/24 and others.

### Accruals

No further additions are expected.

### Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2016/07/29 by Edythe Huffman. EAD finding aid created 2016/07/29 by Edythe Huffman.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Corporate Name(s)

- United States. Army. Indiana Infantry Regiment, 47th (1861-1865).
- United States. Army. Infantry Regiment, 2nd. Company K.

### Genre(s)

- Correspondence
- Photographs
- War diaries

### Geographic Name(s)

- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Military life
- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Personal narratives

### Subject(s)

- Mexican War, 1846-1848

## Collection Inventory

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Correspondence, 1848-1860	1	1
Correspondence, 1861-1862 May	1	2
Correspondence, June-1862 December	1	3
Correspondence, 1863	1	4
Correspondence, 1864 Jan.-1864 June	1	5
Correspondence, 1864 July-1864 Dec.	1	6
Papers, 1865-1972	1	7
Papers, undated	1	8
47th Indiana Regiment, Company H. diary, 1863/04/28-1864/09/17	2	1
Family photographs, undated	2	2
Memoirs, title page and pages 1-60, undated	2	3
Memoirs, pages 61-120, undated	2	4

Memoirs, pages 121-193, undated	2	5
Letters to his wife, Melvina, during the Civil War, title page and pages 1-60, undated	2	6
Letters to his wife, Melvina, during the Civil War, pages 61-120, undated	2	7
Letters to his wife, Melvina, during the Civil War, pages 121-180, undated	2	8
Letters to his wife, Melvina, during the Civil War, pages 181-225, undated	2	9
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Volume</b>
Scrapbook and company orders, 1862-1884	3	1
		<b>Oversize</b>
Samuel J. Keller appointment and commission, 1861/10/10		B53